



Bensenville Elementary School District 2

Board of Education Special Meeting

Minutes – July 16, 2025

President James Stoltman called the Regular Meeting of the Bensenville Elementary School District 2 Board of Education, DuPage County to order at 6:30 p.m., at the Educational Administration Center, 210 S. Church Road, Bensenville, IL.

Roll call verified that there was a quorum of the Board present with the following members present and absent as listed below:

Board of Education	Title	Present	Absent
Jacqueline Dye	Member	X	
Victoria Gonzalez	Secretary	X	
Robert Laudadio	Member		X
Milton Mercado, Jr.	Member		X
Anita Miller	Vice-President	X	
Maria Cristina Reyes	Member	X	
James Stoltman	President	X	
Administration			
Dr. Katie McCluskey	Superintendent	X	
Mr. Tim Keeley	C.S.B.O	X	
Ms. Lydia Ryan	Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning	X	
Mr. Dustin Berman	Assistant Superintendent for Student Services	X	
Cindy Snyder	Administrative Asst. to the Superintendent & Clerk of the Board	X	

Others Present: Tania Gomez, Community Relations Coordinator, Jay Pasternak Community Member.

Pledge of Allegiance – Mr. Stoltman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment - None

Presentations

A. **Summer School Report:** Ms. Ryan reported that this year's summer programs supported over 384 students in traditional and enrichment programs. The Traditional Summer School focused on literacy and math, paired with enrichment activities like Legos, gym, and "golf through math."

The Summer Enrichment Program offered engaging electives—such as crafting, gardening, and creative writing—for students not in the academic track. Despite slightly lower attendance than previous years, instructional quality and student engagement remained strong in both programs.

Board Committee Reports

A. **Announcements** - none

Administrative Reports

A. **Announcements** – Dr. McCluskey introduced and welcomed the new administrators to their first board meeting, Lydia Ryan, Assistant Superintendent for Teaching & Learning, Tim Keeley, C.S.B.O., Tania Gomez Community Relations Coordinator.

- B. **FOIA Report – None**
- C. **End of Year Financial Report:** The Board reviewed the End of Year Financial Report. The District ended the year with a \$2.7 million surplus, bringing in \$47.7 million in revenue and spending \$45 million. The overall fund balance dropped from \$48.5 million to \$40.1 million, which is aligned with the District's financial strategy to fund the 2024 Blackhawk Middle School addition and renovation with existing fund balance.
- D. **Construction Update:** Mr. Keeley reported that at Blackhawk Middle School, new flooring has been installed in 12 remaining classrooms. Cabinet installation is currently underway in the remaining rooms. A new kiln was recently installed, and select windows have been replaced as part of ongoing upgrades. At Tioga Elementary School, interior painting has been completed. At W.A. Johnson Elementary School renovation work is in progress in the two ACE spaces in the 4th and 5th grade wing, with full project completion expected by August 1, 2025.
- E. **Staff Orientation Days & First Day of School:** Dr. McCluskey reported that New Teacher Orientation is scheduled for August 14–15, followed by Teacher Institute Days on August 18–19. The first day of school will be on August 20th for K-8th grade and August 25th for preschool students.

Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes

- 1. Special Board of Education Meeting – June 18, 2025
- 2. Special Board of Education Meeting - June 18, 2025 - Closed Session

Recommendation: The Board of Education approves the above listed minutes as presented and attached.

B. Approval of Financial Reports

- 1. Bills June 2025
 - a) Accounts Payable
 - b) Imprest Checks
 - c) Advanced Checks
 - d) Credit Card Payments
- 2. Financial Statements as of June 30, 2025
- 3. Quarterly Investment Report

Recommendation: The Board of Education approves the above listed financial reports as presented and attached.

C. Personnel

I. Resignation of Administrative Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approve the resignation of Rubi Ortiz, Curriculum Director, effective 6/30/2025.

II. Resignation of Certified Staff

Chloe Hlustik, 2nd Grade Classroom Teacher, Johnson School has submitted their resignation.

Recommendation: No action by the Board of Education is necessary for this resignation.

III. Resignation of Classified Staff

The following classified staff members have submitted their resignations:

- 1. Cecilia Arteaga, Dual Language Paraprofessional, Tioga School.
- 2. Andrea Campos Huante, Dual Language Paraprofessional, Johnson School.
- 3. Kelly DeFilippis, Instructional Aide, Tioga School.
- 4. Joyce Marie McGowan, Instructional Aide, Johnson School.
- 5. Christina Ninan, Special Education Paraprofessional, Johnson School.
- 6. Lady Laura Popoca, PreK Paraprofessional, Tioga School.

Recommendation: No action by the Board of Education is necessary for these resignations.

IV. Ratification of Employment for 2025-2026 Certified Staff

Recommendation: That the Board of Education approves the employment of the following certified staff members:

1. Daniela Assenato, 6th-8th EL Science Teacher, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 14, 2025.
2. Kathrine Lori Norman, 6th Grade ELA Teacher, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 14, 2025.
3. Jeffrey Michael Sheehan, 6-8th Grade Co-Teacher with ESL Endorsement, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 14, 2025.

V. Ratification of Employment – Classified Staff

Recommendation

That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of the following classified staff:

1. Ariana Meza, Library Aide, Johnson School, effective August 18, 2025.
2. Julie Cano, Instructional Aide, Johnson School, effective August 18, 2025.
3. Karen Castillo, Lunch Aide, Johnson School, effective August 20, 2025.
4. Gael Flores, Special Education Paraprofessional, Johnson School, effective August 18, 2025.
5. Nina Logan, Lunch Aide, Johnson School, effective August 20, 2025.
6. Jayden Martinez-Lamando, Special Education Paraprofessional, Tioga School, effective August 18, 2025.
7. Ms. Rojo, Language Paraprofessional, Johnson School, effective August 18, 2025.
8. Paula Stevens, Library Aide, Blackhawk Middle School, effective August 18, 2025.
9. Veronica Macias, Infant/Toddler Specialist, Tioga School, effective July 21, 2025.
10. Cecilia Garcia Morales, Language paraprofessional, Johnson School, effective August 20, 2025.

VI. Approval of Long-Term Substitute

Recommendation: That the Board of Education ratifies the employment of the following long-term substitutes:

1. Colleen Flannery, long-term substitute for two long-term assignments at Johnson's School, from August 18, 2025 through November 7, 2025 and November 23, 2025 through February 27, 2026.
2. Michelle Tsipianitis, long-term substitute teacher at Tioga School, from August 18, 2025 through November 10, 2025.

D. Establish Meal Prices for Adults

Breakfast: The recommended staff price is \$3.00.

Lunch: For staff, the recommended price is \$4.90.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education adopt the meal prices for staff as proposed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Reyes that the Board of Education approve the consent agenda items as presented.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Miller, Reyes, Dye, Gonzalez, Stoltman

Nay: None

Absent: Laudadio, Mercado

Motion Carried.

Conference/Action Items

A. 2nd Reading & Adoption of Revised Policies

- Policy 5:310 – Compensatory Time Off
- Policy 7:190 – Student Behavior

Mr. Keeley presented the above policies for 2nd reading and adoption, no further changes have been made to the proposed policy revisions.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education adopt the following revised policies as presented for 2nd Reading.

- [Policy 5:310](#) – Compensatory Time Off
- [Policy 7:190](#) – Student Behavior

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, Gonzalez, Miller, Reyes, Stoltman

Nay: None

Absent: Laudadio, Mercado

Motion Carried.

B. Review Policy 5:170 – Copyright - Mr. Keeley presented Policy 5:170 – Copyright for review. The policy was last reviewed in July of 2016. No new updates have been presented in IASB's PRESS (*Policy Reference Education Subscription Service*). Seeing that this policy is over nine years old, the administration has reviewed this policy, determined that no changes are necessary, and recommends that the policy review date and District DMCA Agent be updated.

A motion was made by Mrs. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education review [Policy 5:170](#) as presented and approve the review date of the policy.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Miller, Gonzalez, Dye, Reyes, Stoltman

Nay: None

Absent: Laudadio, Mercado

Motion Carried.

C. First Reading Policy Revisions – Mr. Keeley presented the following policies for 1st reading

- [Policy 2:260](#) - Uniform Grievance Procedure The policy and footnotes are updated in response to State of Tennessee v. Cardona, striking down the 2024 Title IX sex discrimination regulations and restoring the 2020 Title IX regulations, and for continuous improvement. The footnotes are also updated in response to the Whistleblower Act, 740 ILCS 174/, amended by P.A. 103-867, broadening the scope of legal protections for whistleblowers.
- [Policy 2:265](#) – Title IX Grievance Procedure. **REWRITTEN.** The policy is updated in response to State of Tennessee v. Cardona, striking down the 2024 Title IX sex discrimination regulations and restoring the 2020 Title IX regulations, and for continuous improvement.

Recommendation: That the Board of Education review the above policies for First Reading in anticipation of adoption at a future board meeting.

D. Award Annual Contract for First Student Pre-K Tuesday Bus Routes – Mr. Keeley reported that the District's buses are not able to serve both the middle school and the Pre-K program on Tuesday afternoons. The middle school's early dismissal that day conflicts with the regular dismissal time for the Pre-K program. The Pre-K dismissal time cannot be made earlier on Tuesday because of state requirements for the length of the school day.

To provide this service on Tuesday, Administration considered several options: combining routes; making other route changes; obtaining help from Fenton High School; and hiring outside companies. Buses from District 2 or from Fenton High School are not available to serve these Tuesday afternoon routes.

Only the outside company solution is workable. A proposal was sought from First Student, because it has other routes near Bensenville. First Student has agreed to provide four routes each Tuesday afternoon for \$129.38 per route. This is a 3.5% increase over the prior year.

A motion was made by Mrs. Dye and seconded by Mrs. Gonzalez that the Board of Education approve the Transportation Services Agreement with First Student for Tuesday afternoon bus service for the Pre-K program for the 2025-2026 school year.

Roll Call Vote:

Aye: Dye, Gonzalez, Miller, Reyes, Stoltman

Nay: None

Absent: Laudadio, Mercado

Motion Carried.

New Business

- Mr. Stoltman asked that questions about the agenda or Board business be directed to Dr. McCluskey, the Superintendent, and not the staff members, as per the Board Member Operating & Procedural Agreement.

Closed Session – None

Adjournment

At 6:56 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Reyes that the Board of Education adjourn the meeting. Upon voice vote, all board members present voted aye. Motion carried.

No further business appearing, Mr. Stoltman adjourned the meeting at 6:56 p.m.

President

Secretary